

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 7, 2006 (BOS Mtg. 9/19/06)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator

SUBJECT: Speed Limit Provisions – The Greenlands

Issue

In 2002, the Board endorsed and forwarded to VDOT a request submitted by The Greenlands Homeowners Association for establishment of the *\$200 Additional Penalty for Speeding* restrictions on Blevins Run, Tristen Drive, Hilda Hollow, Kerr Lane, Jara Lane and Jonathan Junction. At that time, The Greenlands subdivision was still under development and not all of its streets had been constructed and/or accepted into the Secondary System (streets not in the Secondary System are not eligible for the *Additional Penalty* provisions). Now that the development is complete and all streets have been accepted, the HOA has requested that the remainder be restricted.

Background

In 1996 the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted a policy and procedures for the installation of signs advising of a maximum additional penalty of \$200 for exceeding the posted speed limit on certain residential streets. These procedures require that a formal request for establishment of the \$200 fine provision be submitted by resolution of the Board of Supervisors. To qualify, a street must meet the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) definition of “local residential” or “residential collector” prescribed in the policy and must have a posted speed limit of 35 MPH or lower. The policy includes definitions intended to encompass only those streets that are predominantly residential in nature and also requires that residential units face the street and have driveway connections to it. The Board’s request to VDOT for establishment of the restrictions must identify the specific road segments to be covered, confirm that the segments meet the definitions, note that a speeding problem exists, and document that the increased penalty has community support. If the request is approved, VDOT will install the necessary regulatory sign. Since 1997 the Board has adopted resolutions requesting VDOT to designate over fifty (50) streets in County neighborhoods for the \$200 speeding fine.

Considerations

1. The Board initially supported designating the streets in The Greenlands primarily as a proactive traffic-calming measure. At the time, the community was relatively new, not all the street interconnections to adjacent subdivisions had been completed and speeding had not been noted as a major problem by the Sheriff’s Department. However, because some of The Greenlands streets were interconnected with streets in Tabb Lakes, the Board recognized the potential for inter-

neighborhood traffic movements (particularly with trips to and from the library and YMCA) and, with that, the greater potential for speeding. Accordingly, the streets highlighted in green on the attached map were endorsed for the *Additional Penalty* restriction with the expectation that additional streets would likely be added when the subdivision was fully developed.

2. The major through streets in the adjacent Coventry and Tabb Lakes subdivisions have been similarly designated. As you will note, in its August 28th letter The Greenlands HOA requested that most all of the remaining streets in the subdivision be restricted – even including the short cul-de-sacs. Normally, since cul-de-sacs and non-through streets would have few, if any, speeding problems, staff would not recommend their inclusion. However, in the case of The Greenlands, establishing the restrictions throughout the subdivision on all streets would allow the required signs to be placed only at the four entrances to the development. If only selected streets are restricted, far more signs will be required in order to differentiate between those that are and those that are not. Staff believes that community aesthetics could be better preserved by an all encompassing designation.
3. Although not specifically requested by The Greenlands, staff believes that it would be appropriate and advisable to include Blackberry Bend and the segment of Peachtree Lane between Coventry Boulevard and Blackberry Bend since those streets connect with Richter Lane. These additional recommendations are shown in blue on the attached map, and their inclusion would be consistent with previous actions that designated the major through streets in Coventry (with the support of the Coventry HOA).

Recommendation

Although The Greenlands' request involves streets where there is little or no documentation in the form of speeding citations, I continue to support this technique as a proactive traffic-calming measure. In addition, approval will provide continuity with the designations that apply in the adjacent developments. Therefore, I recommend that the Board endorse this request for the establishment of the increased penalty provisions through the adoption of proposed Resolution R06-121 and forward it to VDOT with a request for approval.

Carter/3337
Attachments

- Letter from The Greenlands HOA
- Greenlands / Coventry Area Map
- List of previously-approved \$200 additional fine roads
- Proposed Resolution R06-121